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The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No scheme has yet been submitted."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Are there any rules under the consideration of the Government of Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No such proposal is before the Government. It is clearly stated in the answer given there."

Introduction of Kanarese as the court language in Nilgiris district.

* 196 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that the Badaga, Kurumba, Kota and Toda languages spoken in the district of Nilgiris are dialects of Kanarese (vide Linguistic Survey of India, Volume IV) ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that according to the census of 1921 out of a total population of 126,519 in the district the number speaking Kanarese and the aforesaid dialects is 60,621 whilst the Tamil-speaking population which is mostly immigrant is but 39,032 ; and

(*c*) if so, why Kanarese is not the language of the law courts and the schools, whilst Tamil is ?

A.—(*a*) Government are aware that such an opinion is held regarding Badaga and Kurumba. They have not heard before that Thoda or Kota were supposed to have any affinity to Kanarese.

(*b*) From the Census Report of Madras for 1921, the numbers of persons speaking Kanarese and 'other languages' are 14,753 and 46,090 respectively. The total is 60,843 which is much the same figure as that quoted in the question.

(*c*) As regards the Law Courts the present arrangement so far as the Government is aware best suits the convenience of the majority of the litigants : at all events no complaints on the subject have been received. As regards schools the rules provide for instructions being given in the vernacular of the pupils wherever this is practicable.

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" In view of the statistics given in answer to this question, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he will consider this question of introducing Kanarese language in law courts and schools ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir, there was no special representation whatsoever from the people of the district."

Labour

Tour of the Labour Commissioner in June last.

* 197 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Commissioner of Labour left Madras on tour in June or July this year ; and

(*b*) whether at that time labour troubles and strikes seemed imminent in some of the textile mills in Madras ?

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A.—(*a*) The Commissioner of Labour was in Ootacamund during the greater part of June and left Madras on tour early in July.

(*b*) The Commissioner reported in June about the likelihood of a strike in the Choolai Mills.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know the reason why the Labour Commissioner when he knew that there was a strike imminent in Madras he went to Ootacamund ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The Commissioner was in close touch with the whole affair. Even though he was at Ootacamund, his office was here."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" When did he actually return to Madras from Ootacamund ? "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know whether there was any strike at Ootacamund in the month of June ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The answer is obvious."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" If he had been here, there would not have been any necessity for him to go down. May I know why the Commissioner went to Ootacamund ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Because during the hot weather, he can remain in Ootacamund."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Is it permitted by the Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, it is permitted."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government ask him to look into the whole question now ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Not necessary, Sir."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" Is it not one of the most important duties of the Labour Commissioner to be present here personally at the time of the strike instead of enjoying rest at Ootacamund ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" As I have said already, he was in touch with the situation and he took a very important part in settling the dispute."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I suppose, when he was at Ootacamund, there was no strike in his office here ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not think I can answer that question."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In view of the supplementary answer given by the hon. Member in charge, may I know what important part he played ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" He met both the parties and after discussing with them he settled the dispute."

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Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"May I know when he came to Madras?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have no information."

Motor Vehicles Act

Status and pay of bus inspectors.

* 198 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place before the House a statement showing the number, status, pay or income of officers performing the function of inspectors of buses in the Madras City, and in various other places in the Presidency and the receipts of fees for inspection, for the year ending 30th June 1928?

A.—Information is not readily available and is being collected. When complete, the statement will be placed on the table.

Motor-car accidents in the Presidency.

* 199 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(*a*) to place before the House a statement of motor-car and motor-bus accidents in the several districts of this Presidency resulting in deaths of human beings and grievous hurt to them during the six months ending 30th June 1928; and

(*b*) to state what steps Government have taken or contemplate taking to reduce such accidents?

A.—(*a*) The information is not available.

(*b*) Government of their own motion and on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Police and District Magistrates are amending the Motor Vehicles Rules so as to prevent accidents as far as possible.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I enquire as to why the Government did not keep a register of deaths due to serious accidents?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The reason is obvious. The Government did not think it worth while to collect statistics of deaths caused on account of bus accidents all over the Presidency."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"Do not Government think it their duty to have a record of human beings lost in such accidents?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"This information is available at the headquarters of the districts."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"Did not the Government send for this information before they prepared this answer?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I did not think it an important matter."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Is there no rule that all deaths arising out of accidents should be reported to the Government?"